

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

The accessions to the library of the Academy during the year since the first of December, 1897, number 4,469 of which 3,946 were pamphlets, 517 volumes and 6 detached maps.

They have been received from the following sources:—

Societies,	1,917	Chas. P. Perot,	3
I. V. Williamson Fund, .	1,138	Geological Survey of New	
Editors,	790	Jersey,	3
Authors,	230	University Geological	
Angelo Heilprin,	101	Survey of Kansas, . . .	2
U. S. Dept. of Agricult-		East Indian Government,	2
ure,	53	Dr. D. B. McCartee, . .	2
James Aitken Meigs		U. S. War Department, .	2
Fund,	44	U. S. Treasury Depart-	
Estate of Geo. A. Rex, .	27	ment,	1
U. S. Department of the		U. S. Interstate Commis-	
Interior,	23	sion,	1
Department of Mines		U. S. Civil Service Com-	
Victoria,	20	mission,	1
Geological Survey of		S. P. Langley,	1
Sweden,	14	Queensland Government,	1
U. S. Department of		Commissioners of Inland	
State,	14	Fisheries and Game,	
Wilson Fund,	13	Mass.,	1
Ministry of Public Works,		Librarian of Congress, .	1
France,	11	Geological Survey of	
Geological Survey of		Canada,	1
India,	7	Geological Survey of Por-	
U. S. Department of		tugal,	1
Labor,	6	Department of Mines,	
Comité Géologique Russe,	6	Nova Scotia,	1
Department of Mines,		Thomas Meehan,	1
New South Wales, . . .	5	Trustees of the British	
Department of Geology,		Museum,	1
Indiana,	4	Illinois State Bureau of	
U. S. Commission of Fish		Labor,	1
and Fisheries,	3	Mrs. C. F. Palmer, . . .	1
Secretary of State, Mex-		Wm. J. Fox,	1
ico,	3		

M. E. Wadsworth, . .	1	The Editor Publishing	
Geological Survey of		Co., Cincinnati, O., .	1
Mexico,	1	Smith, Elder & Co., Lon-	
Iowa Geological Survey,	1	don,	1
H. A. Pilsbry,	1	Estate of John H. Red-	
T. D. Rand,	1	field,	1
Edw. J. Nolan,	1	Southern Rail Road, Co.,	1

They were distributed to the several departments of the library as follows :—

Journals,	3,639	Medicine,	18
Geology,	196	Physical Science,	18
Botany,	120	Mineralogy,	17
General Natural History,	91	Herpetology,	16
Agriculture,	56	Helminthology,	15
Entomology,	37	Ichthyology,	14
Mammalogy,	37	Ornithology,	11
Anthropology,	30	Geography,	5
Conchology,	28	Chemistry,	1
Anatomy and Physiology,	27	Bibliography,	1
Voyages and Travels, . .	20	Miscellaneous (unclass-	
Encyclopedias,	18	ified),	36

The decrease during the year in the number of accessions is partly due to a curtailment of the amount appropriated for the purchase of books and partly to the fact that deficiencies in the publications of corresponding societies, persistently asked for, had been in a great measure previously supplied, at all events as far as they are likely to be, except by purchase from second hand dealers.

The facilities for cataloguing have been greatly increased by the purchase of improved cases which not only accommodate the card entries of all the books and pamphlets now in the library but provide ample space for the growth of at least the next fifty years.

The necessity for increased shelf room, to which attention was called in my last report, becomes more pressing, especially in the department of Journals. In many instances the accessions are now packed away in such form as to be difficult of access, the disadvantage being greatly increased by the lack of means for necessary binding. It is strongly urged that both these need: more cases and a larger appropriation for binding, be supplied at an early date.

Some little relief in the way of additional room has been secured by the selecting out and packing away of a number of volumes of official documents, State executive reports, miscellaneous literature, and other material entirely unconnected with the Academy's function. It is suggested that these be disposed of to some library where they will not be so entirely out of place and where they are likely to be looked for by those interested in them.

A large collection of duplicate volumes and pamphlets numbering 1,996 titles have been arranged and catalogued. It is hoped that means may be furnished for the printing of the list. There is no doubt that the expense would be refunded by sales, while the books would be so distributed as to confer benefit on those acquiring them instead of lying, as now, useless in our storage room.

While the binding during the year of 174 volumes has been unusually small in amount, it has been unusually important in character, twelve volumes of Gould's folios, embracing the *Birds of New Guinea* in five volumes and the *Birds of Asia* in seven, have been bound in a manner befitting the artistic beauty of the works. The expense was defrayed from the Wilson Fund, to which the books themselves were credited, thus materially curtailing the amount available from that source for the purchase of additions. The unbound numbers had, however, been practically inaccessible to students since the completion of the works, whereas they now form an available portion of the ornithological library and a superb addition to the collection of finely illustrated folios which, thanks to the taste and liberality of Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, is one of our notable possessions.

A careful enumeration of the library during the year furnishes the following results:—

	VOLUMES.	PAMPHLETS.
Journals,	20,645	
Geology,	2,655	2,568
General Natural History,	2,641	810
Botany,	2,166	1,155
Voyages and Travels,	1,764	89
Anatomy and Physiology,	1,591	1,101
Anthropology,	1,263	695
Entomology,	1,144	1,188
Conchology,	1,004	691
Medicine,	819	1,122

Ornithology,	816	538
Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, etc., . . .	811	
Bibliography,	691	
Mineralogy,	520	490
Physical Science,	548	735
Geography,	336	46
Agriculture,	301	223
Ichthyology,	286	301
Mammalogy,	281	383
Helminthology,	264	367
Chemistry,	259	300
Herpetology,	172	217
Unclassified,	356	
Warner Library, mostly Mathematics, .	1,090	627
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	42,423	13,646
Volumes formed by collection of pamphlets,	958	
Volumes in library of Entomological Section (Am. Ent. Soc.),	2,864	
Volumes in James Aitken Meigs' library,	1,975	
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Total,	48,220	

Nearly all the pamphlets above enumerated are bound, the entire collection forming, as noted, 958 volumes.

The library of the Entomological Section (American Entomological Society) comprises 2,864 volumes, many of them, however, being duplicates of those elsewhere credited.

The James Aitken Meigs' library of miscellaneous literature is entirely foreign to the province of the Academy, the scientific portions of it having been catalogued and placed when received with the special sections of the main library of which they now form a part. The miscellaneous portion is retained and kept together out of regard for the wishes of the donor John G. Meigs. A shelf list has been prepared but it has not been otherwise catalogued although there is a large amount of material in the collection of indirect interest, sufficient indeed to warrant the preparation of an author and subject catalogue when time can be secured from more pressing matters.

Excluding, therefore, if it be thought proper, the two sections last referred to, the working library of the Academy contained when

counted last August, 43, 381 volumes. The last previous enumeration was made in 1888 when there were 30,831 volumes on the shelves; the addition of 12,550 volumes, therefore, in ten years, is a gratifying rate of increase in view of the strictly special character of the library.

In two lectures on the literature of natural history delivered in November as introductory to the Academy's Ludwick Institute courses for the year, I had the pleasure of commenting on some of the bibliographical treasures of the library while defining the scope and purpose of such a collection. The Academy is to be congratulated on the fact that there is probably no other in America from which the subject could be illustrated so amply.

It gives me renewed pleasure to again acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Wm. J. Fox for efficient assistance during the year.

EDW. J. NOLAN,
Librarian.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The Curators are able to report the collections under their care to be in an excellent state of preservation.

Besides the preparation and cataloguing of new material received during the year, it has been possible to devote considerable attention to the re-arrangement of several departments of the museum.

Following the plan adopted last year, about half of the wall cases were removed from the upper gallery of the old museum and erected in the new basement, thus completing the Alcoholic department as originally planned. All the remaining Alcohols, comprising the Reptilia, Batrachia, Mammalia, and Invertebrata were transferred to these cases. The systematic arrangement of the Fishes and Invertebrata has been completed, the latter as well as the Reptilia and Batrachia having been catalogued during the year.

It might be added that the entire zoological collection of the Academy has now been catalogued, except a part of the Mollusca, the dry Invertebrate preparations, and the Osteological preparations of Fish, Reptiles, and Batrachians.

The magnitude of this work can be appreciated when it is learned that the combined number of catalogue entries of the vertebrates amounts to sixty-five thousand six hundred.